Daily Devotion – The Consecrated Life and the Practice of His Presence (Part 1 of 3)
Sunday February 12, 2023

Last Sunday we discussed the "how to" have a time of daily devotion. We shared simple practices we could engage in during our time of devotion.
1, Confession, Cleansing and Casting Cares Aside
2, Thanksgiving and Worship
3, Prayer - Pray in tongues. Pray for specific matters.
4, Confession of the Word
5, Memorize Scripture
6, Meditative Bible Reading

We mentioned when closing that our daily devotion is not relegated to a set time of day or a set place in our prayer closet. Our life of daily devotion is really lived out through a consecrated lifestyle and the practice of His presence throughout the day. This is what we will be focusing on today.

THE CONSECRATED LIFE

Consecrated means to be declared sacred to God, to live a life of that is seat apart to God.

Consider the example of our Lord Jesus. He came to do the will of the Father.

The example of Jesus

John 8:29
And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him.

We note two important facets on how Jesus lived in this verse:

He was always conscious of the Father's Presence. He said: "He who sent me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone". We will talk about the practice of His presence later in the sermon.

He was always living consecrated to the Father. He said: "I always do those things that please Him".

A life of daily devotion is a consecrated life.

To live consecrated is to live holy and pleasing to the Lord in all things, at all times.

To live the consecrated life, you make a deliberate choice to do what is pleasing to God.

Ephesians 5:8-10
8 For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light
9 (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth),
10 finding out what is acceptable to the Lord.

The apostle Paul explains that we are light, and we are to walk as children of light, demonstrating goodness, righteousness and truth. A key to walking as children of light is to find out and do what is pleasing to the Lord.

So as we go about our day, in all we do, we ask ourselves these questions – Is this good, right and true? Would this be pleasing to God?

CONSECRATED IN ALL THINGS, AT ALL TIMES.

Our goal is to be consecrated in all things and at all times, to the Lord.

Consecrated in my thoughts.
Consecrated in my desires.
Consecrated in my appetites.
Consecrated in my motives.
Consecrated in my choices.
Consecrated in my words.
Consecrated in my actions.

In all things, at all times, we use these as our checkpoints – Is this good, right and true? Would this be pleasing to God?

Side Note
We must be consecrated in our sexual appetites.
We realize that this is an area of challenge for all of us. The world around us constantly 'bombards' our mind with information targeting this area of our lives.

1 Thessalonians 4:3-4

3 For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality;
4 that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor,

God designed our sexual desires and function.

However, God gave us clear instruction on the exercise and satisfying of our sexual desires.

Any exercise or fulfillment of our sexual desire in a way that does not honor God or please God, is perversion.

GOD DELIGHTS IN THE CONSECRATED LIFE

Psalm 4:3
But know that the LORD has set apart for Himself him who is godly; The LORD will hear when I call to Him.

God looks upon the person who chooses to be godly – living consecrated – as one who has been set apart for Him, specially for Him. You are saying through your actions, 'God I am yours and yours alone'.

THE PRACTICE OF HIS PRESENCE

Another important aspect of a life of daily devotion is to practice the presence of God, at all times. This means we are always conscious of His being with us. The Lord Jesus stated it like this in John 8:29 "He who sent me is with me. The Father has not left me alone".

John 8:29
And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him.

The Lord Jesus promised to be with us always (Matthew 28:19-20). So, like Jesus, we too can live conscious of His presence with us always.

The Psalmist stated it like this in Psalm 16:8:

Psalm 16:8

I have set the LORD always before me; Because He is at my right hand I shall not be moved.

moved = slip, shake, fall, waver, get off course

(GNB) I am always aware of the LORD's presence; he is near, and nothing can shake me.

We are aware of the Lord's presence all the time. Nothing can shake us or cause us to get off course, in either our faith, or our life of consecration.

Consider these Scriptures that bring our attention to God's omnipresence and omniscience.

Psalm 139:7
Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence?

Proverbs 15:3
The eyes of the LORD are in every place, Keeping watch on the evil and the good.

In the 1990s there was a wave among young people with the acronym WWJD: What Would Jesus Do? This was actually the sub-title of a book "In His steps : "What would Jesus do?" written by Charles M. Sheldon in 1897, which was produced as a film "In His Steps" in 1964. WWJD became a motto for many believers, in the 1990s. It was a good attempt to make believers aware of the Lord's continued presence, and became a call to live like Him.

What would I do if the Lord Jesus was with me here, standing next to me?

CONCLUSION
Our life of daily devotion is really lived out through a consecrated lifestyle and the practice of His presence throughout the day.

SALVATION CALL

SUPERNATURAL MINISTRY TIME
Minister as the Spirit leads

LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Daily Devotion – The Consecrated Life and the Practice of His Presence (Part 1 of 3)
Sunday February 12, 2023

The is a simple guide for use in Life Group discussions. Our objective is to focus on the application of the Sunday sermon - how each one is becoming a doer of the Word and building their life on God's Holy Word. The Life Group meeting would normally last for 2 hours. Each Life Group would have up to 12-15 people.

Preparation
To prepare for the Life Group meeting, you can listen to the Sermon Key Points (sermon summary in five minutes) or the full-length Sunday sermon. You can also review the Sunday Sermon notes. All these are available in the "All Peoples Church Bangalore" mobile App or online at our sermons page . Pray for the Life Group meeting and invite the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Welcome
The Life Group meeting may commence with a time of prayer, worship, and a fun activity.

LISTEN to God's Word
Read the following Scripture references: *John 8:29; Ephesians 5:8-10; Psalm 16:8; Psalm 139:7; Proverbs 15:3*

INVESTIGATE God's Word Together
Please discuss a few of these together, giving time for people to share their insights. We encourage each one individually to make notes of their personal learning during the Group discussion.

1, We are called to live consecrated at all times. We are to be consecrated in our thoughts, desires, appetites, motives, choices, words and actions. Discuss how we do this practically with the help of God's Word and His Holy Spirit.

2, Our life of daily devotion is really lived out through a consecrated lifestyle and the practice of His presence throughout the day. What does it mean to "practice His presence"? How would we do this practically?

If time permits, each one can take a few (3 minutes max) to share one or two key learning and how they see themselves applying it into their specific life situations. Encourage each one to participate and share.

FELLOWSHIP by sharing your life and spiritual journey
Each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share anything from their walk with God, something God has been teaching them, a testimony of answered prayer or a specific challenge that they would like prayer for. Encourage each one to participate and share.

ENCOURAGE each other by praying and ministering to one another
Get into small groups of two or three and take turns to thank God and pray for each other in the light of what was learnt today. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow bringing healing, releasing miracles, prophecy, etc.

Regroup and pray together for:
1, families to be protected and strengthened
2, a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on us as a church and through us to bless many others in our city and nation. Nothing but a mighty work of God's Spirit can change our city and nation.
3, for the BUILD TO IMPACT project - for God's hand to guide us through the land search and acquisition process, and for finances to be more than enough to get this project done.

Close by thanking God together.

USEFUL RESOURCES

Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.
YOUTUBE: https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore
WEBSITE: https://apcwo.org/live

Our other websites and free resources:
CHURCH: https://apcwo.org
FREE SERMONS: https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons
FREE BOOKS: https://apcwo.org/books/english
DAILY DEVOTIONALS: https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional
JESUS CHRIST: https://examiningjesus.com
BIBLE COLLEGE: https://apcbiblecollege.org
E-LEARNING: https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn
WEEKEND SCHOOLS: https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools
COUNSELING: https://chrysalislife.org
MUSIC: https://apcmusic.org
MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP: https://pamfi.org
CHURCH APP: https://apcwo.org/app
CHURCHES: https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches
WORLD MISSIONS: https://apcworldmissions.org

SERMON OUTLINE

Our Daily Devotion is not relegated to a set time of day or a set place in our prayer closet. Our life of daily devotion is really lived out through a consecrated lifestyle and the practice of His presence throughout the day. In this sermon we explore what it is to live a consecrated life and to practice His presence always.

A life of devotion is a life of discipline. We maintain a life of daily devotion because our desire is to deepen our personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. The more we know Him, the more we can love Him, worship Him, trust Him, obey, and honor Him in our lives. Another important reason we maintain a life of daily devotion is to grow or mature spiritually, in our inner person. This results in our person transformation into Christlikeness and brings about our spiritual equipping to serve God effectively.

KEYWORDS

Daily devotion, practice of His presence, practicing His presence, pursuit of His presence, WWJD, What Would Jesus Do, growing up spiritually, sermon, sermons, sermon notes, sermon outline, free sermon notes, free sermon outlines, Bible study resources

REFERENCES/CITATIONS

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